

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE BILL NO. 94

BY SENATOR MURRAY

CRIME/PUNISHMENT. Creates the crime of the production, manufacture, distribution, or possession of a fraudulent postsecondary degree. (gov sig)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 14:72.5, relative to a fraudulent postsecondary degree; to create the crime of the unlawful production, manufacture, distribution, or possession of a fraudulent postsecondary degree; to provide for definitions; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 14:72.5 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§72.5. Unlawful production, manufacture, distribution or possession of fraudulent postsecondary degree

A. It shall be unlawful for a person to knowingly or intentionally produce, manufacture, distribute, issue, possess or use, for any purpose, a fraudulent postsecondary degree.

B. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Distribute a fraudulent postsecondary degree" means to sell, give, transport, issue, provide, lend, deliver, transfer, transmit, distribute, or disseminate fraudulent postsecondary degree for any purpose.

(2) "Fraudulent postsecondary degree" means a post-secondary degree

1 **which is presented as being bona fide degree which provides information which**
2 **is false, forged, altered, or counterfeit.**

3 **(3) "Produce or manufacture fraudulent postsecondary degree" means**
4 **to develop, prepare, design, create, or process a fraudulent postsecondary**
5 **degree for any purpose.**

6 **C. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be fined not**
7 **more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned for not more than six months, or**
8 **both.**

9 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not
10 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature
11 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If
12 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
13 effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Angela Lockett De Jean.

DIGEST

Proposed law provides that it shall be unlawful for a person to knowingly or intentionally produce, manufacture, distribute, issue, possess or use, for any purpose, a fraudulent postsecondary degree.

Proposed law provides that "distribute a fraudulent postsecondary degree" means to sell, give, transport, issue, provide, lend, deliver, transfer, transmit, distribute, or disseminate fraudulent postsecondary degree for any purpose.

Proposed law defines "fraudulent postsecondary degree" as a postsecondary degree which is presented as being bona fide degree which provides information which is false, forged, altered, or counterfeit.

Proposed law provides that "produce or manufacture fraudulent postsecondary degree" means to develop, prepare, design, create, or process a fraudulent postsecondary degree for any purpose.

Proposed law provides that whoever violates the provisions of proposed law shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned for not more than six months, or both.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 14:72.5)